

engage

Fall / Winter 2007

BCCAT Websites: New Planning Tools for Students



BCTRANSFERGUIDE.CA
Discover Your Transfer Options



EDUCATIONPLANNER.CA
EXPLORE YOUR POST-SECONDARY OPTIONS IN BC

BCCAT continues to enhance tools and resources designed to support students in planning their post-secondary education. Last year, we introduced a new, personalized service to **EducationPlanner.ca**. **MyEdPlanner** enables students to create accounts, save searches, and develop personal education and financial plans. In February, this service was extended to **BCTransferGuide.ca**, allowing users to save their transfer searches and customize the BC Transfer Guide using the same user account.

Career Developer is another feature new to Education Planner, providing access to a wide range of free, web-based, career development resources that have been reviewed, rated, and categorized for easy reference.

BCCAT is taking steps to increase awareness of post-secondary options in BC and of key planning tools and resources. Recent activities include presentations to a variety of groups and institutions, involvement at numerous career fairs and conferences, and the launch of a province-wide bus ad campaign. And it's working! We are seeing a significant increase in visits to both Education Planner and the BC Transfer Guide. If you have any ideas on how we might reach students, please let us know.

MyEdPlanner enables students to save post-secondary programs in Education Planner, create education plans and personal budgets for post-secondary programs, and save course searches from the BC Transfer Guide. **Career Developer** provides access to a wide range of free, web-based, career development resources.

Data-Sharing and BCCAT Web Resources

BCCAT expanded the capabilities of its web services this year, allowing institutions to pull data directly from the BC Transfer Guide database for display on their own websites. Data-sharing agreements were established with the College of New Caledonia, Columbia College, Malaspina University-College, and Trinity Western University. For more information on how your institution can use BCCAT web services, contact us at bctransferguide@bccat.ca.

As of December 1, 2007, Columbia College will be the third private institution (together with Trinity Western University and Corpus Christi College) to have its programs included in the Education Planner database.

Degree Partnerships in BC: Report and Symposium

The term *degree partnership* refers to a variety of models that provide a guarantee to students who maintain adequate grades in a college program of continuation of degree studies at another institution. BCCAT has published a paper examining potential models of degree partnerships in the BC context (bccat.ca/pubs/sr_dec06.pdf). BCCAT also hosted a symposium where the keynote speaker, Bob Bontrager (Director, AACRAO Consulting Services, and Former Director of Partnership Programs at Oregon State University) spoke about the benefits of degree partnerships and the OSU model with community colleges in Oregon. Discussions revealed the magnitude of partnerships already established or in process in BC, and the considerable work being done by institutions to make such partnerships possible. (See bccat.ca/degree.)

Private Degree-Granting Institutions: Policy Review

The policy that governs the inclusion of private-degree granting institutions in the BC Transfer System underwent a major review this year. The new, revised document, *Private Degree-Granting Institutions Policy*, is available at bccat.ca/pubs/private.pdf.

Campus 2020: Thinking Ahead: BCCAT Submission

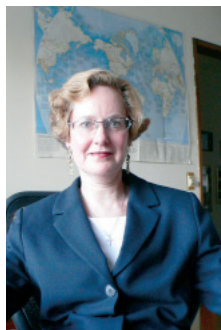
BCCAT submitted a paper to the Campus 2020: Thinking Ahead consultation outlining five critical areas that should be addressed to move towards an ideal post-secondary system by 2020. (See bccat.ca/pubs/bccat2020.pdf.)



Paul Madak



Harro Van Brummelen



Lynda Wallace-Hulecki

Supporting the BC Transfer System

Best Practices in Transfer Credit Administration

Following on the success of last year's transfer credit workshop, BCCAT assisted the BC Associate Registrars & Managers Association (BCARMA) with the coordination of a second workshop on October 19th, 2007.

Annual Meeting of Articulation Chairs and Systems Liaison Persons (SLPs)

The Annual Meeting of Articulation Chairs & (SLPs) was held in February 2007. The agenda included a presentation on "Lessons Learned" by articulation committees, a question and answer session with a student panel, and a discussion of BCCAT's response to the Campus 2020 Consultation. Participants reported they found the sessions useful and informative.

Annual Meeting of Institutional Contact Persons (ICPs) and Transfer Credit Contacts (TCCs)

The Annual Meeting of ICPs and TCCs was held on April 20th, 2007. The agenda included updates to the BC Transfer System, ways to improve the articulation process, exercises in "How to Articulate," and a presentation outlining student feedback about BCTransferGuide.ca. The next meeting has been scheduled for April 18, 2008. Check the website at bccat.ca/icp for a summary of last year's meeting, and for information regarding next year's meeting.

Council Members: Update

The Council is delighted to welcome three new members:

- **Dr. Paul Madak**
Professor & Dean, Student Success & Enrolment
University of Northern BC
- **Dr. Harro Van Brummelen**
Professor of Education, Trinity Western University
- **Ms. Lynda Wallace-Hulecki**
Registrar & Executive Director, Student Enrolment
University of Victoria

We are also pleased to confirm the re-appointment of **Dr. Lou Dryden** (North Island College), **Dr. Paul Harrison** (University of British Columbia), and **Ms. Karin Kaercher** (Camosun College) for a second three-year term.

We would especially like to express our appreciation to the following outgoing members for their valuable contributions to the Council: **Dr. James Anglin** (University of Victoria), **Mr. John DeGrace** (formerly with the University of Northern BC), and **Dr. David Sylvester** (Corpus Christi College).

Transfer in Canada

PCCAT Meeting in PEI

In June 2007, representatives from across Canada met to share policies and practices in support of inter-provincial student mobility. At the meeting, the Terms of Reference for the Pan-Canadian Consortium on Admissions and Transfer (PCCAT) were finalized and David Hinton, Registrar at the University of New Brunswick, was elected to join Frank Gelin as Co-Chair. BCCAT staff are assisting with administration and support. The next meeting (June 2008) will be held in Toronto. For more information, see pccat.ca.

BC/Alberta Transfer Protocol

BCCAT and ACAT (the Alberta Council on Admissions & Transfer) collaborated to establish a Transfer Protocol which encourages institutions in both provinces to award transfer credit for courses taken in either jurisdiction. For details, see bccat.ca/pubs/BC-ABprotocol.pdf.

Research & Publications

BCCAT.ca now provides a search facility enabling direct access to BCCAT research reports and publications (at bccat.ca/publications). We invite you to check out these recent publications:

- **Research Results: BC University Outcomes for Direct Entry and Transfer Students**
- **Research Results: 2006 Mobility of Transfer Students in BC**
- **Tracking Student Mobility Between the Public and Private Post-Secondary Sectors in BC: A Feasibility Study**
- **Associate Degrees Awarded in British Columbia 1993/94 to 2005/06**
- **Special Report: Recalibrating the BC Transfer System**
- **Transfer Students: What Universities Need to Know**
- **BCCAT 2006-07 Annual Report**

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This newsletter is also available at BCCAT.ca in PDF format. Printed in Canada.